

established when the Great Northern Railroad built a station in the town and named it after an early settler to the area, Andrew Newburg. About a year after the railroad station opened, the town's post office was established. Newburg is also home to a local inventor and businessman, Frederick Sund. Sund began Sund Manufacturing Company, which employs many community residents.

Along with Sund Manufacturing Company, Newburg is home to several other businesses, many of which support farming business in the town and surrounding area. The town also has many recreational activities, including fishing and duck hunting. Guide services are available to assist wildlife enthusiasts in the area.

The residents of Newburg are proud of all of their accomplishments over the past 100 years and have planned a celebration that includes a parade, a car show, a variety show, a street dance with fireworks, a community-wide pot-luck meal, and an ecumenical church service.

Mr. President, I ask the Senate to join me in congratulating Newburg, ND, and its residents on their first 100 years and in wishing them well through the next century. By honoring Newburg and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the great pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Newburg that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.

Newburg has a proud past and a bright future.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF McVILLE, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize a community in North Dakota that will be celebrating its 100th anniversary. On July 7-9, the residents of McVile will gather to celebrate their community's history and founding.

McVile is a small but welcoming community located in the northeastern part of North Dakota. In 1906, McVile, like many rural towns, relocated to a new townsite along the Great Northern Railroad. McVile has a rich history. It is one of the oldest settled areas in North Dakota outside of the Red River Valley. The name McVile was coined from the many families in the region whose surname began with "Mc."

Today, McVile is a great place for outdoor enthusiasts. McVile Dam offers great opportunities for sports fishermen, and is stocked with walleye, northern trout, large mouth bass, blue gills, and perch. McVile also hosts "McVile Days," an annual three-day community celebration that offers residents and visitors many fun and exciting activities to participate in.

McVile is a close-knit community that fosters unity and cooperation among its residents. The citizens of

McVile have many exciting events planned to celebrate their centennial, including a dance, art show, basketball tournament, pig race, canoe race, car show, golf tournament, and parade.

Mr. President, I ask the Senate to join me in congratulating McVile, ND, and its residents on their first 100 years and in wishing them well through the next century. By honoring McVile and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the great pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as McVile that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.

McVile has a proud past and a bright future.●

MAX SCHUMACHER'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY WITH THE INDIANAPOLIS INDIANS

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, today I wish to celebrate an important milestone in the life of my fellow Hoosier, former classmate, and close friend, Max Schumacher. On July 15, I will have the opportunity to join Max's family and many friends in Indianapolis at Victory Field to celebrate his 50 years of important leadership with the Indianapolis Indians baseball team.

Since I came to know Max while we were both students at Shortridge High School, I have always been impressed by his commitment to leadership and public service. During our time at Shortridge, I admired his remarkable athletic and journalistic abilities. Max went on to study at Butler University where he was a member of the baseball team and editor of the school's newspaper, *The Collegian*. After receiving a bachelor of science degree in journalism in 1954, Max joined the U.S. Army, where he served until 1956. Butler recently recognized his accomplishments when he was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame.

For the past 50 years, Max has worked in several different capacities within the Indians organization, including ticket manager, publicity director, general manager, and now president and chairman of the board. His leadership has helped the Indians achieve 31 consecutive years of profits and business success. In 1988 Max received the John H. Johnson President's Award to recognize him as the individual who "best exemplifies the standards of a complete baseball franchise."

Another milestone of Max's leadership of the Indians was the opening of Victory Field 10 years ago. Fans from across the country have marveled at this beautifully modern facility, which has been recognized as one of the premier baseball stadiums in the country. Victory Field has been an important addition to downtown Indianapolis, enabling families to enjoy memorable experiences together in such a welcoming atmosphere.

Max's leadership in the Indianapolis community goes far beyond his work

with the Indians. Max has served as president of the Indianapolis Downtown Kiwanis Club, the Indianapolis Kiwanis Foundation board of directors, the board of directors of the Boys and Girls Club of Indianapolis, and is a member of the board of directors of the Greater Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce. As a recognition of this service, Governor Bowen named Max a "Sagamore of the Wabash" in 1980, and he was designated a member of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels.

I also congratulate Max's wife Judy and their three children, who have been such an integral part of the Indians family for these many years. I was honored to be an usher in the wedding ceremony when Judy and Max were married, and Max was an usher when Charlene and I were married.

I appreciate this opportunity to congratulate my friend Max Schumacher, and I look forward to many more adventures with him, his family and friends, and the entire Indians organization as we cheer the Indians on to victory.●

HONORING A GREAT COLORADAN

● Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the work of a great Coloradan, Randy Rusk, and share some thoughts about the role that conservation easements can play in protecting Colorado's open spaces and rural way of life.

Mr. Rusk was recently named one of "15 People Who Make America Great" by *Newsweek Magazine* for the contributions he has made to the protection of Colorado's Wet Mountain Valley. The Wet Mountain Valley is near my own San Luis Valley in southern Colorado. It is known for its lush pastures, for the jagged mountains that flank it, and for the men and women who ranch its lands.

Mr. Rusk's family raises cattle on their 1,500 acres, but it would be a prime setting for second homes, 35-acre ranchettes, or a subdivision. Clearly he could sell his land to a developer if money was his primary concern, but Mr. Rusk would rather that his grandchildren be able to enjoy and work the ranch as he has.

As someone who comes from a ranching family, I can tell you, that ranchers generally don't like to be told what they can or can't do on their lands. But Mr. Rusk decided that the best way to protect his land was to put its development rights in a trust. With a conservation easement on his land, he can be certain that the property will remain intact in perpetuity.

Mr. Rusk has taken this idea beyond his own ranch and has convinced other ranchers in the Wet Mountain Valley to place conservation easements on their land, too. Some get reimbursed for parting with their land's development rights, while others simply donate them. Thanks to Mr. Rusk's leadership, around 11,000 acres of the Wet Mountain Valley will be protected from development.

Knowing how useful conservation easements are to ranchers and farmers across Colorado how much good they have done for preserving our open lands and rural way of life, I am troubled by proposals that would punish those who use conservation easements to protect their lands.

Our current tax law says that donated conservation easements can be claimed as a deduction. This is how it should be. If a rancher donates development rights to a nonprofit, to be held in trust, he or she should be able to claim a Federal tax deduction. This deduction, in conjunction with State and local incentives, is a valuable tool in protecting Colorado's natural heritage.

There have been some instances of fraud in the use of conservation easements. The IRS should punish those responsible and Congress should explore ways of tightening up our laws to avoid abuses of the system. But, by and large, those who place easements on their lands are like Randy Rusk, and they do so for the right reasons.

Mr. President, I am proud of the innovative ways that Coloradans are finding to protect open spaces, strengthen rural economies, and continue traditional ways of life. We have a common interest in supporting the work of ranchers like Mr. Rusk, whose stewardship of his lands yields benefits for all of us. I encourage this body to stand behind these wise conservation practices by protecting the Federal tax deduction for conservation easements.●

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ROBERT J. DAVIS, JR.

● Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute today to COL Robert J. Davis, Jr., commander of the Baltimore District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Colonel Davis is retiring after 26 years of distinguished service in the U.S. Army, and I take this opportunity to express my appreciation for his many years of dedicated service to our Nation.

Robert Davis graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1980 and was commissioned into the U.S. Army. He has served in numerous staff and command positions here in the United States and abroad including an associate professorship in the Department of Mechanics and Civil and Mechanical Engineering at West Point, commanding the C Company of the 14th Engineer Battalion in Fort Ord, CA, and directing public works for the 6th Area Support Group in Stuttgart, Germany. He also served as assistant to the commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and as commander of the Detroit District.

Since August, 2003, when Colonel Davis was selected as commander and district engineer for the Baltimore Engineer District, I have had the pleasure of working closely with him on numerous civil works and military construction projects vitally important to the State of Maryland. These included the

completion of the first phase of the rewatering of the C&O Canal in Cumberland, MD, the initiation of the Gwynns Falls Restoration Project in Baltimore, the dredging of St. Jerome Creek in Southern Maryland, the advancement of dredged material management plans for the Port of Baltimore and the opening of a new recreational trail at Jennings Randolph Lake. Colonel Davis has continued a long tradition of outstanding leadership of the Baltimore District, and the citizens of Maryland and the other States served by the Baltimore District will benefit from his leadership for years to come.

In recognition of his exceptional service, Colonel Davis has received numerous awards and commendations including the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Army Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Medal of Achievement. But above all, Colonel Davis has exemplified a steadfast commitment to serving his fellow citizens and country with his very best, most dedicated efforts. In this most honorable mission, he has earned the admiration and high regard of everyone with whom he has worked. I extend my personal congratulations and thanks for his hard work and dedication and wish him the very best in the future.●

TRIBUTE TO RUSSELL AND BETTY BECK

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Russell and Betty Beck of Pierre, SD. Russell and Betty Beck will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this year on December 22.

Russell and Betty met in June of 1956 at the Central States Fair in Rapid City, SD. Russell, a fly boy in the Air Force, was stationed at Ellsworth AFB, and Betty, who was just a few years out of high school, was working in Rapid City at the time. The couple was later married in their pastor's home with Nancy Gibson and William Clarkson as their witnesses. Russell and Betty eventually made their home in Murdo, SD, where they raised four children: Bernard, Bernardine, Darsey, and Robin.

I offer my congratulations to Russell and Betty on their 50th wedding anniversary and wish them many years of continued happiness.●

KRISTEN CHRISTENSEN

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to thank Kristen Christensen, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota this summer.

Kristen is a graduate of Yankton High School in Yankton, SD, and is currently a rising sophomore at the University of South Dakota where she is studying English and psychology. She is a hard worker and has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to give my thanks to Kristen and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

CHRIS TIMMERMAN

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to thank Chris Timmerman, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota this summer.

Chris is a graduate of Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, SD, and is currently a rising junior at Emory University where he is studying philosophy. He is a hard worker and has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to give my thanks to Chris and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

AIMEE BREWSTER

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to also thank Aimee Brewster, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota this summer.

Aimee is a graduate of St. Thomas More High School in Rapid City, SD, and is currently a rising sophomore at the University of Notre Dame where she is studying political science and French. She is a hard worker and has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to give my thanks to Aimee and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:40 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5689. An act to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make technical corrections, and for other purposes.

At 4:16 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by